

House Resolution 708

By: Representatives Yates of the 73rd, Everson of the 106th, Sellier of the 136th, Abrams of the 84th, Day of the 163rd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Friday, September 18, 2009, as POW/MIA Recognition Day at the state capitol;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, all Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the men and women of the United
4 States armed forces who risk their lives in the defense of freedom and to secure the blessings
5 of liberty for this nation and other peoples of the world; and

6 WHEREAS, commemorations honoring America's POW/MIAs, those returned and those still
7 unaccounted for from our nation's wars, began in 1979; and

8 WHEREAS, every year the President of the United States signs a proclamation recognizing
9 a specific day to honor this country's POW/MIAs; and

10 WHEREAS, the number of unaccounted for Georgia soldiers from World War II and the
11 Korea and Vietnam wars totals 571; and

12 WHEREAS, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command is a task force of all military
13 branches charged with the mission of recovering and repatriating MIA soldiers and POWs;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, on the third Friday of September ceremonies will be held throughout the nation
16 and around the world on military installations, ships at sea, and in schools, churches, and fire
17 stations in honor of prisoners of war and soldiers missing in action; and

18 WHEREAS, the focus of POW/MIA Recognition Day is to ensure that America remembers
19 its responsibility to stand behind those who serve our nation and do everything possible to
20 account for those who do not return; and

21 WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the brave and courageous men and women of this
22 nation's military who have not returned home or who have suffered as prisoners of war be
23 remembered and honored.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
25 the members of this body join in recognizing Friday, September 18, 2009, as POW/MIA
26 Recognition Day at the state capitol and extend their utmost and profound appreciation for
27 all members of the United States military who stand ever ready to lay the ultimate sacrifice
28 upon the altar of freedom.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
30 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to members of the public and
31 the press.